

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/613,129

Examiner

David Lazaro

Applicant(s)

OFIR ET AL.

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 09/01/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-12 and 14-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER


David Lazaro
March 13, 2006

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 14-20 are pending.
2. Claims 1, 2, 4-12 and 14-20 are allowed.
3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Karl Koster (50,684) on 03/09/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please enter the attached amendment, which makes amendments to claims 1, 2 and 12, and cancels claims 3 and 13.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In addition to applicants remarks (09/1/2005), the primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the following limitations as a whole in each of the independent claims directed to a method and system for maintaining a status indication in a network operations center for a terminal adapter connected to a transaction network:

"receiving a first status update message form the terminal adapter by the network node indicating a first parameter file version number stored in a memory of the terminal adapter, the first status update message further including a terminal adapter identification number and a first primary communication path status;

relaying the first status update message from the network node to the network operations center; receiving the first status update message at the network operations center and examining the terminal identification number and the parameter file version number; comparing the first primary communication path status with a second primary communication path status stored in the memory and issuing a notification message if the first primary communications path status is different from the second primary communications path status.” (From claim 1, similar limitations in Claim 12)

These claimed limitations are not found in the prior art, nor are they obvious in view of the prior art.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0101262 by Godwin “Method and system for scheduling the maintenance of remotely monitored devices”. May 29, 2003. Discloses point of sale equipment with controllers capable of transmitting update messages to a network operation center. However, the update messages do not


communicate a first primary communication path status, nor does the center have functionality for comparing a first and second communication path status.


8. U.S. Patent 6,505,170 by Seifert et al. "Distributed device management system" January 7, 2003. Discloses management of distributed devices including point-of-sale devices. The device can perform self-checks and send status reports to a host computer. Does not disclose a first primary communication path status, nor does the host have functionality for comparing a first and second communication path status.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Lazaro whose telephone number is 571-272-3986. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


David Lazaro
March 13, 2006


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

1. (currently amended) A method for maintaining a status indication in a network operations center for a terminal adapter connected to a network node, comprising the steps of:

receiving a first status update message from the terminal adapter by the network node indicating a first parameter file version number stored in the a memory of the terminal adapter, the first status update message further including a terminal adapter identification number and a first primary communication path status;

relaying the first status update message from the network node to the network operations center;

receiving the first status update message at the network operations center and examining the terminal identification number and the parameter file version number;

comparing the first primary communications path status with a second primary communications path status stored in the memory and issuing a notification message if the first primary communications path status is different from the second primary communications path status; and

recording a status indication and recording time in a status indication table at the network operations center, wherein the status indication table associates the status indication and recording time with the terminal adapter identification number.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising ~~receiving~~ recording the first primary communication path status indicator in the status indication table:

3. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A system for maintaining a status in a network operations center of a terminal adapter connected to a transaction network comprising:

a network operatively connected to the terminal adapter adapted to receive a first status indication message from the terminal adapter, the first status indication message including a terminal identification number, a first parameter file version number, and a first communication path status indicator; and

a network operations center operatively connected to the network adapted to receive the first status indication message from the network, the network operations center comprising a processor and memory storing a status table associated with the terminal identification number, the processor determining a time associated with the receipt of the first status indication message in a the status table and starting a timer, the processor further comparing the first communication path status indicator with a second communication path status indicator stored in the status table and issuing a notification message if the first communication path status indicator is different than the second communication path status indicator.

13. (cancelled)